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He has declared that war between Japan and the United States is an utter impossibility, and that Japan even stands ready to extend a royal welcome to the Pacific fleet if it should go to the Far East.

"I find in some quarters of your country," he says, "an impression that a few political parties in Japan are agitating war with the United States. That impression is utterly wrong. All Japan is firm in the belief that no serious trouble can arise between our country and the United States. Here, it is true, I have heard talk of possible hostilities, but I am sure that that talk was wholly in irresponsible quarters. The real sentiment in America, as I find it, carries a strong friendship for my country, and I am sure that sentiment is reciprocated there among all classes of people.

"I found, for instance, that the difficulties on the Pacific Coast were far more imaginary than real. Other immigrants seemed to be jealous of the Japanese, and that led to friction and trivial difficulties, which, when the labor unions took cognizance of them, were much magnified by sensational newspapers. I am sure that, with the restrictions the Japanese government is preparing to enforce in this matter, there will be no ground for further trouble.

"So far as the Philippines are concerned, Japan does not want them. In the first place, we are too poor to buy them just now. Then, too, if we could get the islands, these holdings would seriously derange our economic conditions."

Whatever malignant rumors may be afloat among newspapers, and whatever dark suspicions may have been aroused by the speeches of Captain Hobson, our minds should be perfectly tranquil on this frequently recurring suspicion of war.

**Neutralization of Norway and Honduras.** What amounts to the neutralization of Norway by four great European powers has recently taken place. On the 12th of February the treaty was made public which had been previously signed between France, Great Britain, Germany, Russia and Norway guaranteeing the independence and territorial integrity of Norway. The treaty provides that Norway shall cede to no power any part of her territory, and the signatories agree to recognize the integrity of Norway and to act in concert in her support in the event of her being menaced by any power. This agreement probably will prove as effective in the maintenance of Norwegian independence as if all the European powers were parties to it. But it must be confessed that at this day, when the nations are more and more moving together, it would have been more in harmony with the spirit of the time if all the powers, at least all of those of Europe, had been asked to join in the neutralization. The same is true in regard to Honduras, which has been neutralized by the action of the recent Central American Peace Conference at Washington. The independence of this

Central American state would be much more certain to hold if North and South American governments were back of the guarantee, than will be the case with only the four Central American states, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Salvador, supporting it. So long as these states remain at peace with each other, which it is hoped they will do under their new agreement, Honduras will probably have its independence and neutrality respected, but if they should fall out with one another, Honduran neutrality might quickly become a figment.

**Heroism Imperishable.**

It has been proved thousands of times over, and new proofs come every day, that it is not necessary to keep up the war system in order that heroism may stay in the world. War may, and does, furnish heroism with opportunities to show itself; but the heroism does not depend upon war. It is inborn. It manifests itself everywhere and at all times. It needs only the right circumstances to bring it out. It is to be found in the civilian as well as in the soldier, in peace as well as in war; in the civilian and in peace more conspicuously and of a vastly higher order than in the soldier and in war. Brave heroes stand on the deck of ocean liners, braver than ever stood behind the guns of a battleship or charged a line of infantry. It is in such a perilous emergency as that of the burning of the *St. Cuthbert* recently, whose brave sailors fought a hopeless battle with fire, and were rescued by the first officer and crew of the *Cymric*, that the heroic nature of man is conspicuously displayed. No; whatever may be said for war heroism, there is not the shadow of necessity of war to create brave men. There are plenty of them without it. They exist wherever human need and suffering and peril appeal to men. They have always so existed, and will continue so to exist when the last rifle has been fired at a human being and the last warship has fired the last murderous shell at a group of fellowmen. Only then, when men are finally ruled and impelled by love and moral incentives, will the truest and most genuine types of *human courage* appear.

### News From the Field.

The Texas State Peace Society is now fully organized with the following officers, all of whom have accepted their appointment:

Honorary Presidents: Hon. Joseph D. Sayers, ex-Governor of Texas, Austin; Hon. S. W. T. Lanham, ex-Governor of Texas, Weatherford; Hon. T. M. Campbell, Governor of Texas, Austin. President: Dr. S. P. Brooks, President of Baylor University, Waco. Vice-Presidents: George W. Carroll, Beaumont, Philanthropist, Business Man; Sam Sanger, Waco, Business Man; Nat. M. Washer, President Business Men's Club, San Antonio; Hon. R. L. Henry, Waco, Member of United States

Congress; Rev. R. C. Buckner, Superintendent Buckner Orphan's Home, Dallas; G. J. Winter, Secretary Business Men's Club, Waco; Rev. James M. Kirwin, Rector St. Mary's Cathedral, Galveston; Prof. W. S. Sutton, Professor of Pedagogy University of Texas, Austin; Hon. Geo. F. Burgess, Member of United States Congress, Gonzales. Secretary-Treasurer: John K. Strecker, Jr., Curator Museum, Baylor University, Waco. Auditor: Hon. Pat M. Neff, ex-Speaker Texas House of Representatives, Waco. Executive Committee: Dr. S. P. Brooks; Hon. Pat M. Neff; Sam Sanger; G. J. Winter and J. K. Strecker, Jr.

Rev. Bradley Gilman, of the American Peace Society's Lecture Bureau, has given addresses the past month before the Woman's Alliance of Belmont, Mass., the Brookline Thursday Club, the Canton High School and the Central Labor Union of Boston.

The Texas Peace Society (Waco, Texas) has published in a pamphlet of 56 pages, large octavo, the proceedings of the Texas Peace Congress held in November last. It contains a stenographic report of all the speeches and papers given. The printing of the pamphlet was done by students of Baylor University, at the University printing plant, and is a most attractive and creditable piece of work. For copies of the report address the Secretary of the Texas Peace Society, Baylor University, Waco, Texas, and be sure to put in 10 cents or more to cover the cost of the copy.

We regret to learn that the Peace Society, 47 New Broad Street, London, has been compelled, because of a serious falling off in its receipts, to change the *Herald of Peace*, for the present, from a monthly to a quarterly. This is unfortunate in every way. It would have been better to cut down almost any other line of work. A quarterly publication is no longer of any great value in promoting a cause. It comes too seldom for the swiftness of modern movements. This step means a serious crippling of the Society's influence. The British friends of peace ought not to have allowed it to happen. We hope they will soon show enough metallic interest in the cause to enable the Directors of the Society to restore the *Herald of Peace* to its long-held place among the monthly peace journals.

The 22d of February was again this year made the occasion, by many of the European peace societies, of a joint manifestation in behalf of the cause of peace. An identical resolution, prepared by Felix Moscheles of London, the originator of the 22d of February observance, was adopted by most of the meetings, the purport of which was the urgent necessity of bringing together the scattered peace forces and the creation of "a world peace party, which would be able, by reason of its numbers and its moral force, to exercise a powerful influence on governments and people alike, and thus inaugurate a new era in international relations, based on the rights and duties of every member of the great human family."

The Commission of the International Peace Bureau met at the Bureau's rooms, Berne, Switzerland, on the 3d of February. Delegates were present from Germany, England, France, Denmark, Austria-Hungary, Italy and Switzerland. The Commission did not select

a successor to Elie Ducommun, the late Secretary of the Bureau, but continued Dr. A. Gobat in charge of the work, while waiting to find a suitable man for the position.

The Interparliamentary Peace Union is to hold its Conference this year in Berlin. The precise date of the meeting we have not yet seen announced.

Dr. Otto Umfrid, of Stuttgart, president of the German Peace Society, has sent a reply to the address of the British National Council of Peace Societies in which he says: "German friends of peace are persuaded that German and English people have no reason for mutual enmity and distrust. Commercial competition on this and on the other side of the channel may indeed be sometimes felt inconvenient. But the world is big enough to afford room to both nations for useful and profitable activities. Neither of the two nations thinks of taking away or diminishing the other's well-earned rights. Neither nation could look forward to a lasting advantage from the outbreak of war; but an invaluable gain would accrue to both from a genuine friendship and a permanent *rapprochement*." That is finely said.

### Brevities.

. . . Writing of the sacrifices of Massachusetts in the days of the Civil War, President Eliot says that, though the property losses have been recovered from, "the loss of young men has never been made good. We are suffering to-day from the fact that many men who would have been leaders towards good issues for the last forty years were killed or disabled in the war."

. . . The German government's naval program, which is opposed in the Reichstag only by the Socialists and the Poles, involves the spending of *one hundred million dollars a year* for the next ten years. Admiral Von Tirpitz, Secretary of the Admiralty, replying to a criticism of Herr Bebel that every increase of the German fleet was aimed solely at Great Britain, said: "We are building against no one, and have no occasion for doing so." Are they, then, building just for the fun of it? Is the navy just a big national toy? The admiral will have to answer again.

. . . Dr. Dudley A. Sargent, director of the Hemenway Gymnasium, Harvard University, the foremost authority on physical culture in this country, "believes that bodily training should be made an essential part of every school curriculum." But he does not believe that military drill is what is needed. This he considers in certain respects deficient and abnormal. Well-directed work in the gymnasium is the only means of reaching the desired end.

. . . In the speech with which the King opened the British parliament on January 29, the announcement was made that a conference will be held in London at an early date to set up a code of maritime law for the guidance of the new International Prize Court provided for by the second Hague Conference.

. . . The *Ohio State Journal*, commenting upon Secretary Metcalf's recommendation of \$77,000,000 for new vessels of war, says: "It is the same with a nation as with a man— whoever goes around with a concealed weapon is a candidate for a fuss." "In the arena of